

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claims 1. - 13. (canceled).

14. (currently amended): A method of manufacturing a cable comprising:  
covering an inside surface of a strip of metal with a catalyst substance;  
forming the strip of metal in a shape of a tube;  
inserting optical conductor(s) and a filler material into the tube, the filler material  
constituting a hydrogen absorbent substance; and  
swaging the formed tube after it has been welded.

15. (previously presented): A method of manufacturing a cable comprising:  
covering an inside surface of a strip of metal with a catalyst substance;  
covering the catalyst substance with a hydrogen-absorbent substance;  
forming the strip of metal in a shape of a tube, by mutually overlapping longitudinal  
margins of the strip of metal; and  
gluing the overlapping margins.

16. (previously presented): The method according to claim 15, in which the layer of  
hydrogen-absorbent substance is used for the gluing.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
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17. (canceled).

18. (previously presented): The method of manufacturing a cable according to claim 14, wherein the tube is a substantially gastight metal tube and the catalyst substance is for catalyzing a reaction whereby the filler material is a hydrogen-absorbent substance which absorbs hydrogen, said catalyst substance itself being covered, at least in part, with at least one layer of the hydrogen-absorbent substance.

19. (previously presented): The method of manufacturing a cable according to claim 15, wherein the hydrogen-absorbent substance forms merely a layer deposited on the layer of catalyst substance.

20. (previously presented): The method of manufacturing a cable according to claim 15, wherein the tube is a substantially gastight metal tube and the catalyst substance is for catalyzing a reaction whereby the filler material is a hydrogen-absorbent substance which absorbs hydrogen, said catalyst substance itself being covered, at least in part, with at least one layer of the hydrogen-absorbent substance.